

MEDIA RELEASE

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DIVERSE PATHWAYS TO COMMON GLOBAL GOALS IMPORTANT TO NAVIGATE UNPRECEDENTED RISK LANDSCAPE

To navigate the unprecedented risk landscape we face and ensure the resilience of our food systems in the Anthropocene, we must both establish overarching goals and science-based targets that integrate health, sustainability, and justice, and nurture diverse pathways that are adaptable to various local contexts.

This will be the central message of resilience expert and presenter of the prestigious Sir John Crawford Memorial Address at the **Crawford Fund's Annual Conference** - Australia's key food security event. *Food and Nutrition Security: Transformative Partnerships, Local Leadership and Co-Design* is the Fund's 30th conference and will be held in the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra on 12-13 August, with over 300 to hear from specialists from Asia, the Pacific, Africa and Australia. The conference will be opened by The Hon. Pat Conroy MP, Minister for International Development and the Pacific, and Minister for Defence Industry and Capability Delivery.

"Human actions are profoundly transforming the Biosphere upon which humanity depends. While many of these changes have led to significant improvements in human well-being, they have also created a new risk landscape that threatens to undermine the well-being of current and future generations. At the heart of the interaction between people and the Biosphere are our food systems," said **Dr Line Gordon**, Director, Stockholm Resilience Centre and Professor in sustainable food systems at Stockholm University.

"Creating healthy, sustainable, and just food system futures will demand significant shifts in how humans live within, and interact with, the Biosphere and each other. We must recognise the diverse patchwork of local and regional contexts worldwide, each with different value priorities," said Dr Gordon, who has over 20 years of experience leading interdisciplinary teams in Sustainability Science.

"Recognising and embracing the diversity of local and regional approaches is fundamental to building resilience. Having multiple ways to respond to challenges is key to creating robust food systems."

"In a world of fundamental uncertainty, continuous learning and experimentation are vital. Collaboration and transdisciplinary science, with strategic partnerships between academia, public agencies, the private sector, and civil society, is essential for building resilience for innovative solutions to inspire and drive global change."

Drawing on her interactions with investors, chefs, farmers and innovators she highlighted that diversity, especially response diversity, is at the core of resilience-building.

"Just one example is our bringing together academics and CEOs of the world's largest seafood companies to foster ocean stewardship."

"Ultimately, building resilience is about stimulating the imagination of what a good food system in the Anthropocene can be and nurturing the diverse pathways that can lead us to this future in a world that consists of a patchwork of solutions," she concluded.